

## Message Text

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ACTION AGR-20

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 EB-11 ISO-00 COME-00 SP-03 AID-20 NSC-07

RSC-01 CIEP-03 TRSE-00 SS-20 STR-08 OMB-01 CEA-02

SWF-02 DRC-01 /111 W

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P 040548Z SEP 74

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4320

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DEPARTMENT PASS AGRICULTURE FOR FAS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAGR ETRD JA

SUBJ: GRAPEFRUIT/CARIBFLY

REF: A. TOFAS 539; B. FITZSIMMONDS AUG 14 LETTER TO CONNOLLY;

C. TOKYO 9015; D. FASTO 291

1. SUMMARY. IN MEETING WITH MAF, BECAME APPARENT THAT AT THIS POINT MAF NOT RPT NOT INCLINED ACCEPT COLD TREATMENT METHOD AS SUITABLE SOLUTION. EDB FUMIGATION IN FLORIDA WITH USDA INSPECTION ONLY WOULD BE ACCEPTABLE IF SCIENTIFICALLY SOUND FUMIGATION SCHEDULE IS DEVELOPED. GROWER POLITICAL PRESSURE MOUNTING. MAF INFORMALLY REQUESTS VOLUNTARY PROMISE IN WRITING FROM U.S. THAT NO SHIPMENTS BE MADE FROM FLORIDA UNTIL SOLUTION REACHED. URGENT REQUEST FOR VISIT OF U.S. EXPERTS TO DISCUSS ALL AVAILABLE DATA.

2. DURING COURTESY CALL PAID ON DR. FUKUDA AND MR. TAKADA, MAF PLANT PROTECTION DIVISION, BY WADSWORTH AND TAKESHITA, AGATT OFFICE, FUKUDA TOOK OPPORTUNITY MAKE CERTAIN POINTS RE SUBJECT ON INFORMAL BASIS. MAJOR POINTS SUMMARIZED BELOW, PARA 3 THRU 8.

3. FUKUDA STATED HE IS AGAIN EXPECTED MEET THIS AFTERNOON

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(SEPT 3) WITH LEADERS OF NICHENREN (JAPAN FRUIT GROWERS

ASSOC., REPRESENTING VIRTUALLY ALL DOMESTIC CITRUS PRODUCERS), TO EXPLAIN MAF POLICY RE SUBJECT. HE SAID CERTAIN NICHENREN MEMBERS HAVE URGED THAT IF SOLUTION IS NOT REACHED SOON MAF SHOULD NOT ONLY BAN GRAPEFRUIT IMPORTS FROM FLORIDA BUT ALL CITRUS IMPORTS FROM ALL GROWING AREAS IN U.S.

4. FUKUDA, REFERRING TO REF C, SAID JAPAN IS RELUCTANT TO FORMALLY REQUEST U.S. TO WITHHOLD SHIPMENTS FROM FLORIDA. HOWEVER, IN ATTEMPT TO DEFUSE NICHENREN'S EFFORTS, HE WOULD LIKE TO INFORMALLY REQUEST U.S. SIDE TO MAKE STATEMENT TO EFFECT THAT FURTHER SHIPMENTS OF GRAPEFRUIT FROM FLORIDA WILL BE STOPPED UNTIL THE TWO COUNTRIES CAN REACH AGREEMENT ON CARIBFLY CONTROL MEASURES.

5. WHEN ASKED WHAT TYPE MEASURES MIGHT BE ACCEPTABLE TO GOJ (MAF), HE SAID (A) AN EXPERT (OR EXPERTS) FROM THE U.S. NEEDS VISIT JAPAN TO ANSWER QUESTIONS ON DATA AND OTHER MATERIAL SUBMITTED MAF BY USDA SO FAR (ALTHOUGH THEY HAVE MANY UNANSWERED QUESTIONS ON COLD TREATMENT METHOD, IT IS APPARENT THAT AT THIS POINT THEY ARE INCLINED TO NOT REPEAT NOT ACCEPT IT AS ADEQUATE SOLUTION TO PROBLEM); (B) DEVELOPMENT OF EDB FUMIGATION SCHEDULE SHOULD CONTINUE AS TOP PRIORITY; (C) WHEN SUCH SCHEDULE IS DEVELOPED AND MAF HAS ACCEPTED DATA THEREON AS SCIENTIFICALLY SOUND, GOJ WILL BE PREPARED ACCEPT SHIPMENTS OF FUMIGATED GRAPEFRUIT ACCOMPANIED BY USDA PHYTOSANITARY CERTIFICATE STATING THAT FRUIT HAS BEEN FUMIGATED. (IT WOULD NOT BE NECESSARY STATION MAF INSPECTORS IN FLORIDA BUT FRUIT WOULD BE SUBJECT MAF INSPECTION HERE BEFORE CLEARING CUSTOMS.)

6. WHEN ASKED WHAT ACTION GOJ MIGHT TAKE IF U.S. SIDE IS UNABLE STATE IN WRITING THAT NO SHIPMENTS WILL BE MADE UNTIL MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION IS REACHED, FUKUDA SAID JAPANESE PLANT QUARANTINE LAW GIVES HIM NO AUTHORITY TO STOP IMPORTS. BUT POLITICAL PRESSURE HIGHER UP WOULD NO DOUBT RESULT IN SUCH ACTION, AND THIS IS OF MAJOR CONCERN TO FUKUDA.

7. FUKUDA SEEMED VERY CONCERNED THAT TIME IS RUNNING OUT. AS THE NEXT SHIPPING SEASON APPROACHES POLITICAL PRESSURE FROM GROWERS GETS STRONGER AND STILL IT SEEMS TO HIM LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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U.S. SIDE IS SLOW IN COMING UP WITH CONCRETE PROPOSALS (BACKED BY SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH DONE ON THE CARIBFLY) AND TIME TABLE FOR IMPLEMENTATION.

8. AGATT OFFICE SUGGESTED POSSIBILITY OF HAVING FRUIT FUMIGATED IN JAPAN ONLY IF LIVE LARVAE FOUND. FUKUDA SAID THIS IMPOSSIBLE AT PRESENT EVEN IF SCIENTIFICALLY SOUND FUMIGATION SCHEDULE WERE AVAILABLE BECAUSE

JAPAN HAS NO EDB FUMIGATION FACILITIES AND, BESIDES, PRESENT  
POLITICAL CLIMATE MIGHT MAKE IT INFEASIBLE.

9. ACTION SUGGESTED. AGATT FEELS IT APPROPRIATE SEND  
EXPERT SUCH AS DR. AUTHUR K. BURDITT, RESEARCH ENTOMOLOGIST,  
SUBTROPICAL HORTICULTURE, UNIV OF FLORIDA, AND ONE OR MORE  
FAS AND/OR APHIS OFFICIALS TO TOKYO ASAP TO HAVE DISCUSSIONS  
WITH MAF. ALSO, IF AT ALL POSSIBLE, CABLE PERMISSION TO  
ASSURE MAF IN WRITING THAT NO SHIPMENTS WILL BE MADE FROM  
FLORIDA UNIL MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTION IS REACHED.  
PLEASE GIVE PRECISE WORDING DESIRED.  
HODGSON

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## Message Attributes

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